



10.02.07

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ward et al.  
Serial No.: 10/768,263  
Filing Date: January 30, 2004  
Title: Mechanically Sealed Adjustable Gas Nozzle

Examiner: Christopher S. Kim  
Group A.U.: 3752

Mail Stop - Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Dear Sir:

The applicant has received the Office Action dated June 12, 2007. A copy of the claims as amended as required in the current format as required by 37 CFR § 1.21 is enclosed.

Although the Box 2A of the Office Action Summary is checked off identifying it as a Final Office Action, this is a first action after a Request for Continued Examination and is being interpreted as a non-final Office Action. If this is not the case, please contact the attorney of record, Stephen J. Stark at 423-785-8229 immediately so that another Request for Continued Examination may be filed to address the Section 112 issues identify by the current Office Action.